

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A method of retrieving dispatch call information from a dedicated database for establishing a dispatch call by using interconnect call information, the method comprising:

obtaining interconnect call information from an interconnect communication system, the information identifying a target dispatch subscriber unit in a dispatch communication system;

receiving a request from a source dispatch subscriber unit, the request including the interconnect call information;

extracting the interconnect call information identifying the target dispatch subscriber unit from the request;

relating the interconnect call information of the target dispatch subscriber to unique dispatch call connection information of the target dispatch subscriber in a dedicated database;

retrieving the unique dispatch call connection information concerning the target dispatch subscriber unit from the dedicated database in the dispatch communication system using the extracted interconnect call information from the request; and

forming a dispatch call using the unique dispatch call connection information retrieved from the database.

2. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving a request from a source dispatch subscriber unit comprises receiving a request comprising information indicative of the mobile phone number of the target dispatch subscriber unit.

3. The method of claim 1 wherein the step of receiving a request from a source dispatch subscriber unit comprises receiving a request comprising information indicative of the name of a subscriber associated with the target dispatch subscriber unit.

4. The method of claim 1 further comprising:
receiving permission of a subscriber associated with the target dispatch subscriber unit to release the unique dispatch call connection information from the dedicated database to the source dispatch subscriber unit; and

establishing a call between the source dispatch subscriber unit and the target mobile subscriber unit using the unique dispatch call connection information.

5. The method of claim 1 further comprising establishing a call using the unique dispatch call connection information without allowing a user at the source dispatch subscriber unit to access the unique dispatch call connection information.

6. The method of claim 5 wherein the step of establishing the call comprises sending a message to the source dispatch subscriber unit including an indication that the unique dispatch call connection information should be hidden from the source dispatch subscriber unit.

7. The method of claim 5 wherein the step of establishing the call comprises generating a temporary identifier, the temporary identifier associated with the retrieved unique dispatch call connection information, communicating the temporary identifier to the source dispatch subscriber unit, and linking the temporary identifier to the retrieved information for a duration of the call.

8. A method for forming a dispatch call between a source dispatch subscriber unit and a target dispatch subscriber unit using interconnect call information comprising:

obtaining interconnect call information from an interconnect communication system, the information identifying a target dispatch subscriber unit in a dispatch communication system;

sending a request to a controller, the request including the interconnect call information identifying a target dispatch subscriber unit;

receiving customer dispatch direct connect information from the controller, the dispatch direct connect information indicating a dispatch number of the target dispatch subscriber unit; and

establishing a direct connect dispatch call between the source dispatch subscriber unit and the target dispatch subscriber unit using the obtained dispatch direct connect information.

9. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of sending a request to the controller comprises sending a request comprising information indicative of a phone number of the target dispatch subscriber unit.

10. The method of claim 8 wherein the step of sending a request to the controller comprises sending a request comprising information indicative of a name of a subscriber associated with the target dispatch subscriber unit.

11. The method of claim 8 further comprising obtaining permission of the target subscriber to release the information from a dedicated database to the source dispatch subscriber unit.

12. The method of claim 8 further comprising establishing a call using the information received from the controller without being able to access the information.

13. The method of claim 12 wherein the step of establishing the call comprises receiving a message from the controller comprising an indication that the information should be inaccessible by the source mobile unit.

14. The method of claim 12 wherein the step of establishing the call comprises receiving a temporary identifier from the controller and linking the temporary identifier to the information received from the controller for the duration of the call.

15. A method of obtaining the target DCID using interconnect call information comprising:

selecting an entry in an electronic phone book, the entry indicating a target dispatch subscriber unit;

initiating a call request to the target dispatch subscriber unit based upon the identity of the selected entry, the call request including the iDEN cellular phone number of the target dispatch subscriber unit;

receiving a message including the target iDEN number;

obtaining the DCID relating to the target dispatch subscriber using the iDEN phone number;

storing the DCID in the phone book; and

establishing a call to the target dispatch subscriber unit using the DCID.

16. The method of claim 18 further comprising querying a database using the iDEN number and obtaining the DCID of the target dispatch subscriber unit from the database;

17. The method of claim 19 further comprising sending a private identifier of the source dispatch subscriber unit to the target dispatch subscriber unit.

18. A control system for obtain dispatch connection information from a database comprising:

a temporary memory;

a receiver, coupled to the memory, the receiver obtaining a message from a source dispatch subscriber unit and storing the message in the memory, the message including information indicative of a target dispatch subscriber unit; and

a controller communicatively coupled to the receiver and having an output, such that the controller extracts the information indicative of the target dispatch subscriber unit from the message in the memory and places the extracted information on the output.

19. The control system of claim 18 further comprising a database coupled to the output of the controller, the database being actuated by the information on the output to extract an entry related to the target dispatch subscriber unit.

20. A dispatch subscriber unit comprising:
 - an entry device for receiving interconnect call information identifying a target dispatch subscriber unit;
 - a transmitter coupled to the entry device for transmitting a message to a system processor, the message including the interconnect call information indicative of the target dispatch subscriber unit;
 - a temporary memory;
 - a receiver coupled to the memory, the receiver receiving connection information indicative of the target dispatch subscriber unit retrieved from a data base as a result of transmitting the message from the system processor, the receiver storing the connection information in the memory; and
 - a controller, coupled to the receiver, for causing the transmitter to transmit the message to the system processor and for establishing a connection between the dispatch subscriber unit and the target dispatch subscriber unit using the connection information stored in the memory.

21. The dispatch subscriber unit of claim 20 wherein the controller further comprises means for establishing the connection using the information received from the system controller without the source dispatch subscriber unit having access to the information.

22. The dispatch subscriber unit of claim 20 wherein the controller further comprises means for establishing the connection by receiving a message from the system controller that comprises an indication that the information should be inaccessible to the dispatch subscriber unit.

23. A method of retrieving dispatch call information from a dedicated database by using interconnect call information, the method comprising:

obtaining interconnect call information from an interconnect communication system, the information identifying a target dispatch subscriber unit in a dispatch communication system;

receiving a request from a source dispatch subscriber unit, the request including the interconnect call information;

extracting the interconnect call information identifying the target dispatch subscriber unit from the request;

relating the interconnect call information of the target dispatch subscriber to unique dispatch call connection information of the target dispatch subscriber in a dedicated database; and

retrieving the unique dispatch call connection information concerning the target dispatch subscriber unit from the dedicated database in the dispatch communication system using the extracted interconnect call information from the request.